

Message Text

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15

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-04 PRS-01 SAM-01 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 NEA-14 DRC-01 /051 W

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O P 070600Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO AMCONSUL ASMARA IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1941

USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOGADISCIO 0836

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR CGEN OTRA US SO

SUBJ: VOA CORRESPONDENT DAVID WILLIAMS

REF: SANAA 1114

1. AMBASSADOR HAS DISCUSSED WILLIAMS CASE WITH MOFA (ABDURAHMAN), HIGHER EDUCATION SECRETARY MOHAMED ADEN AND AMBASSADOR ADDOU. WE DEPLORED ACTION TAKEN, NOTED THAT PUBLICITY UNFAVORABLE TO SOMALIA COULD RESULT AND SAID WE WERE ADVISING WILLIAMS TO REMAIN NAIROBI IN HOPES THAT PERMISSION FOR HIM TO ENTER SOMALIA COULD BE OBTAINED. WE URGED SPEEDY ACTION. ALL THREE SAID THEY WOULD SEE WHAT THEY COULD DO AND WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH US THIS MORNING.

2. SUGGEST WILLIAMS PROCEED NAIROBI AS OUTLINED REFTTEL. WE WILL SEE IF WE CAN GET AUTHORIZATION FOR HIS ENTRY IN TIME FOR EAST AFRICAN FLIGHT JUNE 9 (SUGGEST CONTINGENCY RESERVATIONS BE MADE SOONEST).

3. MOTIVES SOMALI ACTION UNCLEAR. ONE POSSIBLE EXPLANATION IS THAT NSS AND IMMIGRATION, HAVING BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL IN THEIR

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ATTEMPT EXPEL AP CORRESPONDENT TORCHIA, WERE DETERMINED TO GET

RID OF ONE AMERICAN CORRESPONDENT. THEY FIRST PICKED ON BAZIL BROWN (NEWSWEEK CORRESPONDENT JAFFE IS GUEST OF GOVERNMENT) BUT THEN FOUND OUT HE WAS AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC OFFICER. NEXT POSSIBLE CANDIDATE WAS WILLIAMS AND OF COURSE IT IS EASIER FOR THEM TO PREVENT ENTRY THAN TO EXPEL SOMEONE ONCE HERE.

4. WHATEVER THE MOTIVATION IS, IT WILL BE PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT TO REVERSE NSS/IMMIGRATION A THIRD TIME, BUT WE WILL TRY.

5. FOR WILLIAMS: THERE IS STORY, APPARENTLY ORIGINATING WITH CREW OF AIRCRAFT ON WHICH YOU TRAVELLED, THAT YOU DID NOT RPT NOT HAVE VALID SOMALI VISA. PLEASE CONFIRM TO US BY RETURN IMMEDIATE CABLE NUMBER AND DATE OF ISSUE OF YOUR VISA.
KIRK

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